## PREFACE

Prepared and produced by the State Center for Health Statistics (SCHS), this report is a basic analysis of North Carolina's marriage formations and dissolutions. It is intended as a supplement to other SCHS publications, most notably, the annual vital statistics reports which provide population, natality and mortality data.

The author wishes to acknowledge the contributions of other SCHS staff members in the preparation of this report. Appreciation is also extended to Carolyn McCoy, Vital Records Branch, for providing copies of the certificates included in Appendix A and information on the legal requirements for marriage and divorce registration. Further, Mary Hill, with the South Carolina Division of Biostatistics, provided needed assistance in the compilation of data on marriages performed in that state.